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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/608,468	06/27/2003	William Pugh	Google-5/CON1 (GP-016-01-	9373
26479	7590	10/23/2006	EXAMINER	
STRAUB & POKOTYLO 620 TINTON AVENUE BLDG. B, 2ND FLOOR TINTON FALLS, NJ 07724			NGUYEN, MERILYN P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2163	

DATE MAILED: 10/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/608,468

Applicant(s)

PUGH ET AL.

Examiner

Merilyn P. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07/27/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 46-67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 46-67 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☒ Other: Detailed action.

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***DETAILED ACTION***

1. In response to the communication dated 07/27/2006, claims 46-67 are pending in this application as the result of the addition of claims 55-67
2. This application is a continuation of 09/768947 now patent numbered 6,658,423.

***Terminal Disclaimer***

3. The terminal disclaimer filed on 07/27/2006 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

The Double Patenting Rejection is hereby withdrawn.

***Claim Objection***

4. Claim 51 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim depends on itself. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5. Claims 46-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

***As set forth in MPEP 21 06(II)A:***

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Identify and understand Any Practical Application Asserted for the Invention The claimed invention as a whole must accomplish a practical application. That is, it must produce a "useful, concrete and tangible result." State Street, 149 F.3d at 1373, 47USPQ2d at 1601-02. The purpose of this requirement is to limit patent protection to inventions that possess a certain level of "real world" value, as opposed to subject matter that represents nothing more than an idea or concept, or is simply a starting point for future investigation or research (Brenner v. Manson, 383 U.S. 519, 528-36, 148 USPQ 689, 693-96), In re Ziegler, 992, F.2d 1 197, 1200-03, 26 USPQ2d 1600, 1603-06 (Fed. Cir. 1993)34. Accordingly, a complete disclosure should contain some indication of the practical application for the claimed invention, i.e., why the applicant believes the claimed invention is useful.

Apart from the utility requirement of 35 U.S.C. 101, usefulness under the patent eligibility standard requires significant functionality to be present to satisfy the useful result aspect of the practical application requirement. See Arrhythmia, 958 F.2d at 1057, 22 USPQ2d at 1036. Merely claiming nonfunctional descriptive material stored in a computer-readable medium does not make the invention eligible for patenting. For example, a claim directed to a word processing file stored on a disk may satisfy the utility requirement of 35 U.S.C. 101 since the information stored may have some "real world" value. However, the mere fact that the claim may satisfy the utility requirement of 35 U.S.C. 101 does not mean that a useful result is achieved under the practical application requirement. The claimed invention as a whole must produce a "useful, concrete and tangible" result to have a practical application.

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The claimed invention is subject to the test of State Street, 149 F.3d at 1373-74, 47 USPQ2d at 1601-02. Specifically State Street sets forth that the claimed invention must produce a "useful, concrete and tangible result". The Interim Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications for Patent Subject Matter Eligibility states in section IV C. 2 b. (2) (on page 21 in the PDF format):

The tangible requirement does not necessarily mean that a claim must either be tied to a particular machine or apparatus or must operate to change articles or materials to a different state or thing. However, the tangible requirement does require that the claim must recite more than a §101 judicial exception, in that the process claim must set forth a practical application of that §101 judicial exception to produce a real-world result. Benson, 409 U.S. at 71-72, 175 USPQ at 676-77 (invention ineligible because had "no substantial practical application").

Claimed invention (Claim 46) recites a method for filtering search results to remove near-duplicates comprising determining whether the candidate search result is a near duplicate of another candidate search result by comparing cluster identifiers which do not provide useful and tangible results. In order for the claim to be tangible, it must have real world value rather than being an abstract result. This claim contains software per se which is not tangible. Moreover, the claim lacks of practical application as to how the system would operate if it is determined that the candidate search result is **not** a near-duplicate of the other candidate search result.

Claim 47 recites similar subject matter as set forth above claim 46, thus being rejected on the same ground.

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Claimed invention (Claims 48 and 67) recites a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of records which do not satisfy the useful result aspect of the practical application requirement. Merely claiming nonfunctional descriptive material stored in a machine-readable medium does not make the invention eligible for patenting. The claims recite functional descriptive hash function, which is used to hash each of the elements to determine which one of the plurality of list that each of the elements will be contained in. However, the determination is performed outside of the machine-readable medium and is nothing to do with the functional aspect of the medium. Thus, merely reciting non-functional descriptive material (field and lists) by putting them into memory does not lead to a practical application.

Claimed invention (Claim 49) recites a method for determining whether two documents are near-duplicates comprising for each of the two documents, generating at least two fingerprints and determining whether or not the two documents are near-duplicates document which do not provide useful and tangible results. In order for the claim to be tangible, it must have real world value rather than being an abstract result. This claim contains software per se which is not tangible. Moreover, the claim lack of practical application as to how the system would operate if it is determined that the fingerprint of the first of the two documents does not match with the fingerprint of the second of the two documents.

Claimed invention (Claims 50-66) recites a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of records which do not satisfy the useful result aspect of the

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practical application requirement. Merely claiming nonfunctional descriptive material stored in a machine-readable medium does not make the invention eligible for patenting. Merely reciting non-functional descriptive material such as field and lists by putting them into memory does not lead to a practical application.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 46-47, 49 and 52, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 46, the claim recites “that” at line 9 which renders the claim vague and indefinite because it’s unclear what Applicant meant by “that”.

Regarding claim 47, there is insufficient antecedent basis for “the candidate search result” at lines 6-7 and “the two candidate search results” at line 13 and “the other candidate search result” at line 18. Moreover, the claim recites “that” at line 11, which renders the claim vague and indefinite because it’s unclear what Applicant meant by “that”.

Regarding claims 49 and 52, the claims recite negative limitation “not”.

Due to the vagueness and a lack of clear definition of the terminology and phrases used in the specification and claims, the claims have been treated on their merits as best understood by the examiner.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Broder (US 6,119,124).

Regarding claim 49, Broder discloses a method for determining whether two documents are near-duplicates (See col. 4, line 6 et seq.), the method comprising:

a) for each of the two documents, generating at least two fingerprints (See col. 4, lines 19-24, wherein unique identifications of a document can be computed as digital fingerprints corresponding to at least two fingerprints for each document); and

b) determining whether or not the two documents are near-duplicate documents by

- i) determining whether or not any one of the at least two fingerprints of a first of the two documents matches any one of the at least two fingerprints of a second of the two documents (See col. 10, lines 27-29), and
- ii) if it is determined that anyone fingerprint of the at least two fingerprints of the first of the two documents does match any one fingerprint of the at

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least two fingerprints of the second of the two documents, then concluding that the two documents are near-duplicates (See 10, lines 27-29).

8. Claims 50-54, 58-60, 61-63, and 64-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 5,850,490).

Regarding claims 50-54, Johnson discloses a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of records (See Fig. 16), each of the records comprising:

- a) a first field for storing a document identifier (Document Identifier field 0001, Fig. 16); and
- b) a plurality of lists (Segment class 1, segment class 2, segment class 3..., Fig. 16), each of the plurality of lists containing elements of a document identified by the document identifier stored in the first field ("Cowherds of the Deep" for example, Fig. 16, wherein, words in "Cowherds of the Deep" corresponding to elements of a document),

Johnson teaches a plurality of records organized into a table; each record reflects a document at Fig. 16, entry 452, wherein each record having plurality of segment classes (lists). Since a document may not have the same keywords with other documents, therefore, some of the Segment classes 1, 2, 3 include no keyword (element). Thus, Johnson teaches wherein at least some of the plurality of lists include different numbers of elements and wherein at least one of the plurality of lists include no elements as per claims 50 and 51.

Johnson teaches wherein contiguous elements in a document are not necessarily contiguous elements of a list as one having ordinary skill in the art would have

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recognized that table in Fig. 16 stores plurality of Segment classes for keywords in documents thus keywords in document are not necessarily contiguous in key fields as per claim 52.

Johnson teaches wherein for each of the records, the number of lists is the same as each of records has the same number of segment classes as per claim 53. Since each document may have the same keywords with other documents or may not have the same keywords with other documents, however, document records still have the same number of segment classes (list) range from 1 to ... in the table; therefore, Johnson teaches wherein a number of the plurality of lists is independent of document size as per claim 54.

Regarding claims 58, 61 and 64, Johnson teach discloses wherein each of the elements of a document is an element that has been extracted from the document (See col. 20, lines 20-31).

Regarding claims 59, 62 and 65, Johnson discloses wherein each of the elements of a document is a predetermined one of (A) a predetermined number of words (See col. 20, lines 28-31, for example, "It was a dark"), (B) a predetermined number of sentences, (C) a predetermined number of characters, (D) a predetermined number of paragraphs, and (e) a predetermined number of sections.

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Regarding claims 60, 63 and 66, Johnson discloses wherein each of the elements of a document partially overlaps another of the elements of the document (See col. 20, lines 28-31)

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claim 48 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 5,850,490), in view of Fujiwara (U.S. Patent No. 6,381,601).

Regarding claim 48, Johnson discloses a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of records (See Fig. 16), each of the records comprising:

- a) a first field for storing a document identifier (Document Identifier field 0001, Fig. 16); and
- b) a plurality of lists (Segment class 1, segment class 2, segment class 3..., Fig. 16), each of the plurality of lists containing elements of a document identified by the document identifier stored in the first field ("Cowherds of the Deep" for example, Fig. 16, wherein, words in "Cowherds of the Deep" corresponding to elements of a document),

However, Johnson is silent as to teach wherein a hash function is used to hash each of the elements in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the elements

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will be contained in. On the other hand, Fujiwara teaches using a hash function to hash each of the elements in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the element will be contained in (See col. 2, lines 57-62, col. 4, lines 47-62, col. 5, line 50 to col. 6, line 10, Fujiwara et al. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use a hash function to hash each of the elements in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the element will be contained in. The motivation would have been to reduce or remove duplicate elements by using hash function.

10. Claims 48, 55-57, and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Judd (U.S. Patent No. 6,360,215), in view of Fujiwara (U.S. Patent No. 6,381,601).

Regarding claim 48, Judd discloses a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of records (Index 16, Fig. 1 and col. 6, lines 47-48 and lines 66-67), each of the records comprising:

- a) a first field for storing a document identifier (col. 7, lines 45-46, wherein location identifier of the current document corresponding to “document identifier” and wherein document index record corresponding to “record”); and
- b) a plurality of lists, each of the plurality of lists containing elements of a document identified by the document identifier stored in the first field (See col. 7, lines 45-50, wherein columns (lists) of record contain values of properties (elements of document) such as document title, document summary. One having ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that

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document title or document summary would contain words, characters or sentences),

Judd teaches MD5 hash function (See col. 7, line 65 to col. 8, line 9). However, Judd is silent as to teach wherein a hash function is used to hash each of the elements in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the elements will be contained in.

On the other hand, Fujiwara teaches using a hash function to hash each of the elements in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the element will be contained in (See col. 2, lines 57-62, col. 4, lines 47-62, col. 5, line 50 to col. 6, line 10, Fujiwara et al. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use a hash function to hash each of the elements in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the element will be contained in. The motivation would have been to reduce or remove duplicate elements by using hash function.

Regarding claim 55, Judd/Fujiwara discloses wherein each of the elements of a document is an element that has been extracted from the document (See col. 7, lines 48-50, Judd et al.).

Regarding claim 56, Judd/Fujiwara discloses wherein each of the elements of a document is a predetermined one of (A) a predetermined number of words (See col. 7, lines 48-50, "document title", "document summary", Judd et al.), (B) a predetermined number of sentences (See col. 7, lines 48-50, "document summary", Judd et al.), (C) a

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predetermined number of characters, (D) a predetermined number of paragraphs, and (e) a predetermined number of sections.

Regarding claim 57, Judd/Fujiwara discloses wherein each of the elements of a document partially overlaps another of the elements of the document (See co. 7, lines 47-50, Judd et al.).

Regarding claim 67, this claim recites similar subject matter as set forth above in claim 48, thus is rejected under similar ground.

11. Claims 50-54, 58-60, 61-63, and 64-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bates (U.S. Patent No. 6,873,982), in view of Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 5,850,490).

Regarding claims 50-54, Bates discloses a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of records (See Fig. 4), each of the records comprising:

a) a first field for storing a document identifier (Document Identifier field 102, Fig. 4); and

b) a plurality of lists (Key 1....Key N, reference 106, Fig. 4), each of the plurality of lists containing element of a document identified by the document identifier stored in the first field (See col. 9, lines 1-3),

Bates teaches each of the plurality of lists containing one element of a document. However, Bates is silent as to each of the plurality of lists containing elements of a document. On the other hand, Johnson teaches each of the plurality of lists containing

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elements of a document (See Fig. 16, and corresponding text, Johnson). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have each of the plurality of lists containing more than one element of a document as suggested by Johnson because the difference are only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and do not alter how the elements of system function. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Bates teaches a plurality of records organized into a table, each record reflects a document at Fig. 4 and col. 6, lines 33-45, wherein each record having plurality of keyword fields (lists). Since a document may not have the same keywords with other documents, therefore, some of the key fields 106 include no keyword (element). Thus, Bates teaches wherein at least some of the plurality of lists include different numbers of elements and wherein at least one of the plurality of lists include no elements as per claims 50 and 51.

Bates teaches wherein contiguous elements in a document are not necessarily contiguous elements of a list as one having ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that table in Fig. 4 stores plurality of key fields for keywords in documents thus keywords in document are not necessarily contiguous in key fields as per claim 52.

Bates teaches wherein for each of the records, the number of lists is the same as each of records has the same number of key 1 to key N fields as per claim 53. Since each document may have the same keywords with other documents or may not have the same keywords with other documents, however, document records still have the same number

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of key fields (list) range from 1 to N in the table; therefore, Bate teaches wherein a number of the plurality of lists is independent of document size as per claim 54.

Regarding claims 58, 61 and 64, Bates/Johnson discloses wherein each of the elements of a document is an element that has been extracted from the document (See col. 9, lines 2-3, Bates et al.)

Regarding claims 59, 62 and 65, Bates/Johnson discloses wherein each of the elements of a document is a predetermined one of (A) a predetermined number of words, (B) a predetermined number of sentences (C) a predetermined number of characters (word contain predetermined character, col. 9, lines 2-3), (D) a predetermined number of paragraphs, and (e) a predetermined number of sections.

Regarding claims 60, 63 and 66, Bates/Johnson discloses wherein each of the elements of a document partially overlaps another of the elements of the document (See Fig. 4).

12. Claims 48, 55-56 and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bates (U.S. Patent No. 6,873,982), in view of Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 5,850,490), and further in view of Fujiwara (U.S. Patent No. 6,381,601).

Regarding claim 48, Bates discloses a machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of records (See Fig. 4), each of the records comprising:

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a) a first field for storing a document identifier (Document Identifier field 102, Fig. 4); and

b) a plurality of lists (Key 1....Key N, reference 106, Fig. 4), each of the plurality of lists containing element of a document identified by the document identifier stored in the first field (See col. 9, lines 1-3).

Bates teaches each of the plurality of lists containing one element of a document. However, Bates is silent as to each of the plurality of lists containing elements of a document. On the other hand, Johnson teaches each of the plurality of lists containing elements of a document (See Fig. 16, and corresponding text, Johnson). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have each of the plurality of lists containing more than one element of a document as suggested by Johnson because the difference are only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and do not alter how the elements of system function. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Bates is silent as to teach wherein a hash function is used to hash each of the elements in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the elements will be contained in. On the other hand, Fujiwara teaches using a hash function to hash each of the elements in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the element will be contained in (See col. 2, lines 57-62, col. 4, lines 47-62, col. 5, line 50 to col. 6, line 10, Fujiwara et al. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use a hash function to hash each of the elements

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in order to determine which of the plurality of lists that each of the element will be contained in. The motivation would have been to reduce or remove duplicate elements by using hash function.

Regarding claim 55, Bates/Johnson/Fujiwara discloses wherein each of the elements of a document is an element that has been extracted from the document (See col. 9, lines 2-3, Bates et al.)

Regarding claim 56, Bates/Johnson/Fujiwara discloses wherein each of the elements of a document is a predetermined one of (A) a predetermined number of words, (B) a predetermined number of sentences (C) a predetermined number of characters (word contain predetermined character, col. 9, lines 2-3), (D) a predetermined number of paragraphs, and (e) a predetermined number of sections.

Regarding claim 67, this claim recites similar subject matter as set forth above in claim 48, thus is rejected under similar ground.

### ***Response to Arguments***

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 46-67 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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***Conclusion***

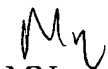
14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Crow U.S Patent No. 6,665,661 discloses system and method for use in text analysis of documents and records.

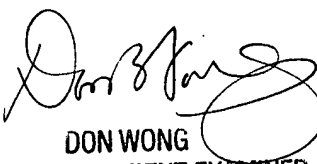
15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marilyn P Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4026. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for regular communications and 703-746-7240 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.



MN  
October 13, 2006

  
DON WONG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100